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W. Beaumont [Washington, DC] to Secretary of War [Washington, DC] suggesting purchase of 100 copies of Experiments and Observations for that branch of service. June 2, 1834

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To the Hon: Secretary of War.

Doctor Beaumont. U.S.A., having been at much labour and expense in performing and publishing a series of "experiments and observations on the gastric juice and the physiology of digestion", which he verily believes will be of much usefulness to the public service, by conducing to promote the general health of community, - the army in particular, if the work be supplied to it.

And being conscious of the inadequacy of his individual means to sustain, without manifest injustice to himself and family, the expenses already incurred, or of further prosecuting the subject, unaided by public patronage, in some way, he very respectfully suggests the justice and propriety of, and earnestly requests, a purchase of 100 Copies, by the Department of War, for the use of the Army -

It is conceived that they will be of much useful importance, not only to the Sick and invalids at the Hospitals of our different military posts, but also to the Company Messes, and individual families, in their tendency to regulate wholesome rules of dieting, upon the true principles of temperance, in both eating and drinking, so essential to the preservation of good health, constitutional firmness and moral rectitude. A notice of the decision, whether adverse or in favor of this proposal, communicated ~~as~~ soon as practically convenient, will be very desirable, as Dr Beaumont is under orders for Jefferson Barracks, Mo. and expects to leave the City very soon. & would wish to make arrangements to furnish the books. Should a purchase be decided upon - a note dropped into the post office within a day or two will be received before he leaves the city -

Very Respectfully,

Washington 2^d June 1834

Wm Beaumont
Surgeon U.S.A.

Sells & the
Scribner on
the subject of books
done 1834